

Announcements.

ABBIE'S. 2—Camille—8—Gimondia.
AMERICAN THEATRE. 8—Herman Girl.
BROADWAY THEATRE. 8—E. Captain.
COLUMBUS THEATRE. 2—8—15—On Erin's Shore.
EDEN MUSIE. Concert.
GARRICK THEATRE. 8—30—Thoroughbred.
GRAND CENTRAL PALACE. 1—10:30 p. m.—Electrical Exhibition.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE. 2—Bohemian Girl—8—Chalieu Rustiana and L'Esquell.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE. 8—15—The Little Duke.
KOSTER & BIAL'S. 6—Vaudeville.
OLYMPIA. 8—15—Peggy.
PROCTOR'S PLEASURE PALACE. Vaudeville.
STANDARD THEATRE. 8—15—Faust.
TERRACE GARDEN. Der Probekun.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1896.

SIXTEEN PAGES

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—A Milan paper contains a story saying that a plot against the life of the Czar has been discovered in Moscow. Italian troops withdrew from Adigat, Abyssinia, and the campaign is considered to be at an end. Archduke Charles Louis, brother of Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, is dead. An ultra-radical manifesto has been issued by Mr. Labouchere and his clique in the House of Commons.

CONGRESS.—Both branches in session. Senate: The District of Columbia bill was passed, leaving only two appropriation bills to be acted on. House: The title of W. C. Owens to the seat from the VIII Kentucky District was confirmed; bills to restrict immigration were discussed.

DOMESTIC.—The Rev. Drs. C. C. McCabe and Earl Cranston were elected Bishops by the Methodist General Conference. The New-York State Association of Congregational Churches opened its annual session in Canaan, N. Y. Warner Miller is quoted by "The Buffalo Express" as considering Platt's attacks on McKinley as "Forest fires have done great damage in the New-England States and in the Adirondacks." A serious financial crisis has resulted in Baltimore from the fight between Mayor Hooper and the City Council.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Justice Fryer granted a writ of mandamus against Controller Fitch in the proceedings brought by the Police Board. The Republican State Committee issued an address reviewing and praising the work of the Legislature. Coroner Dobbs became satisfied that the Colonnade suicide was Mrs. E. E. Hill, and gave a permit for the cremation of the body on Friday. Annual Commencement exercises were held at Union Theological Seminary. Winners at Morris Park: Goldcrest, Benamela, Arbuckle, Belvedere Hapdazz, St. Maxim. The stock market was dull, without important change in prices.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair and cooler. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 83 degrees; lowest, 65; average, 74.

The deadlock of a sort, that existed in the Methodist General Conference was broken yesterday, when Dr. McCabe and Dr. Cranston, the two leading candidates, were elected Bishops. This result was satisfactory to the Conference and will be to the Methodist body in general. Both the new Bishops have high reputations as pulpit orators, and their executive ability has been demonstrated in the important business positions which they have held respectively in this city and Cincinnati.

There is nothing surprising in the conclusions reached by the Elections Committee which investigated the Mitchell-Walsh contest. The evidence left no doubt as to the perpetration of gross frauds in the interest of the Tammany candidate in the VIIIth District of this city, and, in fact, no attempt was made to deny them. The committee has decided that Walsh was not elected, and that Mitchell is entitled to the seat. The decision is a righteous one, and will undoubtedly be sustained by the House.

A new company with a long name is seeking permission to tear up the streets of the city in order to lay mains for the distribution of gas for heating and power purposes. The gas, it is promised, will be sold for not more than 50 cents a thousand feet. That there is a field for the use of gas for fuel is not doubtful, and such gas ought to be produced much more cheaply than that used for illumination. Still the people of the city will not look with favor on any scheme that involves the general opening of the streets, unless it is clear that they will receive undoubted benefits. The new company has not yet made out its case. The Aldermen should proceed slowly in acting on its application.

The people of this city have reason for congratulation in the fact that Governor Morton has signed the bill authorizing the removal of the reservoir at Forty-second-st. and the use of the land on which it stands as the site of the Public Library that is to be established as the result of combining the Astor, Lenox and Tilden resources. The opposition to the taking away of the reservoir has been strong, but unreasonable.

ing, and it has been confined to a few persons. There is in reality no good cause for retaining the reservoir, which has outlived its usefulness. Its demolition will furnish a splendid site for the library of which this metropolis has long stood in need, and there is every reason to believe that a building worthy of the site will be reared.

As Superintendent of Public Works George W. Aldridge receives from the State the comfortable salary of \$6,000 a year, and he draws on the State treasury also for his travelling expenses. For the period of fifteen months Mr. Aldridge travelled to the extent of \$852, which means an average of about \$789 a year. Yet, as our Albany correspondent points out in another column, there is an item of \$2,500 in the Supplementary Supply bill to cover the Superintendent's travelling expenses in full, and Governor Morton is of two minds whether to approve it or not. By Aldridge's own showing the approval of the item will mean a virtual addition of about \$1,700 to his salary, although such increase is forbidden by the Constitution. Apart from the constitutional question involved, it is a piece of unadmitted impudence for Aldridge to ask the State to pay his travelling expenses three times over.

THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

A close vote is expected to-day in the Board of Education upon the proposition to elect Mr. Jasper City Superintendent of Schools for the first six years' term under the new law. One of the Commissioners is in Europe. Of the twenty who presumably will attend to-day's meeting it is known that seven are firmly opposed to the choice of Mr. Jasper, that six are as firmly committed to his support, and that six of the remaining seven were originally inclined in his favor. It has been hoped that as many of these last as would be necessary to prevent hasty action would finally join the opposition, and of this there seemed yesterday to be a rather brighter prospect than for several days before. We sincerely trust that the most singular expectation may be justified.

As we have already said more than once, we have no feeling of hostility to Mr. Jasper. We think that under an extremely faulty system, imposing conditions which could not be avoided and to which perhaps no man could have risen superior, Mr. Jasper has uniformly done a great amount of essential work in a faithful and intelligent manner. For the performance of such duties as he has done well, in the main, heretofore we should be glad to see him retained; and that, as we understand the matter, is the feeling of most, if not of all, of those who are opposed to his elevation. If, however, he shall be elected to-day to the office which has the same title as that which he now occupies, but which in reality ought to be, and may be, a very different thing, his election will not represent the deliberate and impartial belief of a majority of the Board of Education that he is thoroughly qualified for that office. It will mean merely that a majority was made up of those who are personally devoted to his fortunes, of those who have persuaded themselves that it would be harsh to replace him, and of those who are believed to be willing to see the new system discredited from the outset. It is perfectly certain that a majority so obtained would not reflect the intelligent judgment and the disinterested wishes of that great body of citizens, loyally devoted to the welfare of the schools, by whose co-operation the new law was finally passed, after a protracted struggle against strong political influence and many shrewdly contrived obstacles.

It is extremely significant that those members of the Board of Education who were most constant and energetic in their endeavors to bring in a new era of school administration through the operation of an enlightened law are the members who are now unwilling to make Mr. Jasper the head of the school establishment. To those other members who, though inclining in Mr. Jasper's favor for reasons which we do not think well founded, are yet believed to be sincerely desirous of making the new system a success an appeal may be hopefully made, even at this late day. They must be aware that Mr. Jasper's training has not been such as to fit him for the larger and higher work which a City Superintendent of New-York Schools ought to perform, and under the new law can perform, if he is intrinsically qualified for that important post. They must be aware also that, in the judgment of nearly all of those in and out of school circles who have assisted in procuring the change of system, Mr. Jasper is unqualified to make the new system successful in the highest degree, and that his election would be generally regarded as a practical endorsement of the old order. We beg these men to remember that their fellow-citizens are keenly interested in this matter and that, having won a notable victory, they are extremely anxious to gather the fruits of it. Consideration for Mr. Jasper's feelings indicates an amiable temper, but such a disposition ought not to govern their action in a matter of such gravity. They hold a sacred trust for the people, and they are bound by every consideration of honor to discharge it with absolute impartiality as respects individuals. An election of City Superintendent is the most important task which they can be called on to perform in their official capacity. We concede that the result of to-day's meeting is uncertain, but we are hopeful that it will be such as to strengthen public confidence in the Board of Education.

LEADER OR BOSS?

Mr. Platt has been asking with some pertinence why an uncharitable public persists in regarding him as a noisy and abusive Boss when it accepts other men as political Leaders. The answer to the question is as plain as is the distinction between bossing and leading. The business of a Leader is to lead, to give a party ideas, to anticipate the needs of the people, to point the road to victory. The method of a Boss is to suppress thinking among members of a party, to control conventions rather than win elections, and to grasp the fruit of others' labors. The record of Mr. Platt's meddling in politics for twenty years will make plain to which class he belongs.

When in 1881 he earned the title of "Me Too" he did not lead New-York Republicans. The State campaigns which he managed from 1885 to 1892 did not exhibit him as a Leader who could win elections. He ran Davenport, he ran Grant, he left Warner Miller outside the breast-works, he ran Gilbert, he ran Fassett. During all those years he never elected a State ticket, and the only offices he won were those he bargained for in deals with Tammany. Convinced of his own impotence, in 1893 he parceled out nominations to whoever would take them, in expectation of defeat. He had no conception of the moral uprising against Hill and Maynard. When it came he was so surprised that on the instant he gave Providence the credit for the victory, but in a few days calmed it as his own doing and sought to reap all the rewards.

As a National Leader Mr. Platt has shown no greater talent. He ran counter to the sentiment of a century in the third term campaign. In 1892 he proclaimed that Harrison could not be nominated, and by conjuring with the name of a dying man organized a forlorn opposition to the party's choice. Now he is again battling with the popular will and joining Democrats and Mugwumps in denunciation of the man whose nomination they wish most to defeat because they most fear his strength. While posing as a patriot deeply concerned for financial prosperity he seeks to ruin thousands by creating a Wall Street panic as a means of political

warfare, and his followers openly boast that he will succeed.

Never has Mr. Platt led the party on any vital issue. He did not arouse the voters to overthrow Tammany; he took no part in shaping the new Constitution to secure home-rule, stop gerrymanders and promote Civil Service Reform, but when Hill was fighting it bitterly he only gave it the most perfunctory support. Last year he was so little of a Leader that he dodged the one burning question of the enforcement of law over which the moral sentiment of the State was aroused and left Warner Miller to direct the party in the right path. Then under his orders the local organization here snuffed itself and cowardly invited defeat, while the bold policy he feared brought victory in the State.

The Republicans of New-York have had Leaders. Seward gave men an understanding of the "inevitable conflict" and of the country's continental destiny. Greeley educated a generation in political morality. Raymond gained followers by the force of his intellect. Fenton saw at the beginning the evil of machine rule. Conkling won victories which were some apology for his arrogance.

What has Platt done to wear the mantle of these great ones? He has never foreseen the sentiment of the Nation. He has never led men to grasp an idea or directed them for the right in any emergency. Republicans for years were patient under his dictation hoping that some day he would learn to lead them. But they have only seen him manipulate canons, bleed corporations, deal out spoils and trade with the enemy. They will not accept those activities as the work of a Leader. Such labors belong to the trade of a Boss.

A SAD LOSS OF TEMPER.

The readers of our always lively and interesting Democratic contemporary, "The New-York Sun," have no doubt observed with regret that since it became the personal organ of Mr. Platt it has lost much of its oldtime playfulness and good nature, and at times really seems to lose its temper. From being cheerful and joyous for its satire has usually been of a cheery, mirth-provoking sort, and even its cynicism has not lacked the note of joyousness—it has become fretful and almost ill-tempered. Formerly its practice was—and it is inimitable in this respect—to provoke mirth by the simple and exuberantly funny device of taking the man whom it desired to hold up to general contempt by his middle initial—if he had one—and keeping it in the air in an endless variety of combinations with the skill of a ball-juggler and the versatility of a first-class comedian. There was no end to the fun it made in this way. It was, in Homeric phrase, enough to provoke on high Olympus the inextinguishable laughter of the gods. Though sometimes bewildering in its effect and confusing to the sense, it was never tiresome, and, what was more, it was inexhaustible. So that at last men came to say: "Heaven help the man with a middle name who falls under the displeasure of 'The Sun.' He will be an object of derision so long as the 'vocabulary belonging to his initial holds out.'"

Take, for instance, Marcus A. Hanna—"The Sun's" most recent victim. There was a time when the "A" stood for a new name every day and sometimes for several different names in the same issue; and every time a new name was sprung the whole country fairly held its sides. It was so exuberantly and increasingly funny. But this has ceased. It is now many days since our contemporary has invented a new middle name for Mark Hanna. The last mention of him was as Marcus Ashabula Hanna, which, being a repetition, seemed to indicate a sort of weariness of the wits and flagging in the sense of humor that was not at all encouraging to habitual readers, to whom the middle initial joke had become almost a necessity. But this is not all. Either because William McKinley has no middle name or because our contemporary has lost its temper, it has begun calling that gentleman "Prosperity's Dumb Donkeyface." Now, this falls very far short of the fine humor of the middle initial pleasantry. Indeed, it almost falls within the line of very coarse invective and low buffoonery. And this, we are very certain, our contemporary would not indulge in unless under some personal provocation which had aroused resentment. Under some such personal provocation our contemporary described Grover Cleveland as the "Stuffed Prophet." Everybody recognized the severity of the denunciation, and many admitted its appropriateness, but the fact remains that Mr. Cleveland has been three times nominated, twice elected, and has an uncommonly good show to be re-nominated for President of the United States notwithstanding.

The descent from a high order of humor to a low grade of invective seems to us, as it no doubt does to the habitual readers of "The Sun," as a mistake, from the point of view of expediency or policy. Loss of temper at so early a stage of a political campaign is a very bad sign. We can understand, of course, that in the changed conditions since "The Sun" supported General Butler on a Greenback platform it is perfectly justified in demanding, and insisting with unctious and fervor on its demand, that the Republican party shall place no candidate in nomination who is not ready to answer on his piazza in the daytime, or shove up his chamber window and answer at any hour of the night, any question that any newspaper reporter may ask him in so far as he thinks sound money and what in detail he thinks sound money is. That is all right. But we really think that "The Sun" makes a mistake in getting so mad because he doesn't do it as to calling him names, and call him bad names in anger, just because he has no middle name upon which it can play upon good-humoredly. It is excusable in Mr. Platt, whom "The Sun" describes as "doing good work for public morals and moral politics," to call Mr. McKinley by hard names, because Mr. Platt, besides being all on fire for sound money, has "eggs in the basket" which is to suppress thinking among members of a party, to control conventions rather than win elections, and to grasp the fruit of others' labors. But we really don't see why "The Sun" should fly off the handle and lose its temper over it. Let us hope that our contemporary will presently recover its equanimity and resume its old and time-honored practice with middle names. We hate to say so, but at the rate it is now going on it will presently take rank with "The New-York Evening Post."

CITY WATER SUPPLIES.

New-York is at present pretty well supplied with water, and doubtless will be for some years to come. The works now in progress in the Croton Valley will vastly increase the capacity of storage reservoirs, and give the city practical immunity from a water famine, even in times of severe and most prolonged drought. Nevertheless, it is evident that the time will come when a much more copious supply must be obtained than can possibly be drawn from the Croton watershed, and when Brooklyn will need more than can be got on Long Island. Men now living will see that time, and it is scarcely too early, even now, to consider sources and means of securing the supply a Greater New-York of five or six millions or more will need. Perhaps a hint may be taken from the case of London, where increase of the water supply is now a practical and urgent question. The scheme regarded as most feasible is to go outside the already overdrained valleys of the Thames and Lea, and bring water by gravity from the rivers and lakes of the Welsh mountains. Two aqueducts are proposed, to serve the two halves of London, north and south of the Thames. The one will be 150 miles long,

and will discharge its flood into a reservoir 312 feet above sea level. The other will be 170 miles long, and its terminal reservoir will be 300 feet above the sea. A fine high-pressure service will thus be secured for all parts of the city, without pumping. The daily carrying capacity of the two aqueducts will be more than 400,000,000 gallons, and the cost of the works will be \$104,000,000.

Another scheme is also put forward, not to supersede this, but rather to supplement it. That is, to introduce into London the duplex system long ago adopted in Paris: one supply for drinking, etc., and another for street sprinkling, sewer flushing and other purposes. In Paris this second supply comes from the ocean, or from the tidal portion of the river. It would be economical, it is argued, to use such water, and the sanitary results would be fully as good as now, and probably better. A private corporation has been formed for the purpose of introducing sea water, but public and official opinion is running very strongly in favor of the Government itself undertaking the work; as, of course, it should do, if the work is to be undertaken at all.

These are both magnificent schemes, worthy of the world's greatest city, and they are to be commended to the consideration of what is now the world's second city. Whether the superb supply of the upper Delaware is to be drawn upon, or that of the Ramapo region, or yet whether Lake George is to be tapped, as some have suggested, are open questions. Some day they must be closed. And when they are, New-York will do well to make a choice on the most liberal scale. But even before that the question of using sea water as a secondary supply is worthy of earnest consideration. Such a supply is abundant, at our very doors. The utilization of it would make necessary the laying of duplicate mains and the erection of pumping works. That would be a costly job. It would, however, obviate for a long time to come any further extension of the Croton or other potable water system, and it would give us a freer use of water for sanitary purposes, which would also be a great gain.

WOMEN IN WESTERN TOWNS.

Nothing would surprise the foreigner in search of local color in this country more than the way in which women have taken to governing towns in the West. Perhaps he would also be surprised at the successful way in which they do it; but that would be because he was a foreigner; for Americans have come to take woman's capacity for granted—so much so, indeed, that the news about woman Mayors in Kansas towns rarely gets more than two or three lines in a metropolitan paper. Americans find it impossible to transport themselves back to the time when such things would have created even a ripple of excitement. It is admitted by everybody nowadays that woman in America can have and do pretty much everything she wants. It is true the advocates of woman suffrage would be inclined to deny this so far as voting is concerned. But, as a matter of fact, she is already entitled to vote for certain officers in several Western States; and in Colorado she will be entitled under the laws of that State to vote for Presidential Electors next November. If she is not finally endowed with the right of full suffrage in every State of the Union, it will be simply because she herself does not want that right.

But the general question of woman suffrage is rather far ahead just yet, and its discussion may be safely postponed until it assumes a more acute form. In the mean while, the entrance of women in the field of municipal government in certain Western towns is an interesting and picturesque fact, which would attract more notice if it were not taking place under our very noses, so to speak. A year or so ago the election of a woman as Mayor of a town in distant New-Zealand was a theme of interested comment by the American press generally, though at the same time several Western towns in this country had women as Mayors, who, if they did nothing especially worthy of notice, yet acquitted themselves with credit. At present the two towns in which women seem to be supreme are Decatur and Marcelus, both in the State of Michigan. In the former town, which has a population of 1,500, all the town offices except that of dogcatcher are filled by women, and we suspect that if any woman had wanted to be the official dogcatcher she would have got the office. The leading physician of the town is a woman; one of its most popular pastors is a woman. Two women conduct the principal restaurant. The proprietor of the largest dry-goods store is a woman; one of the best shoe-makers is a woman, and there are women painters, harness makers, florists and brokers. The postmistress of the town is also a woman. It is almost needless to say that the women have shut up the saloons of the town, and the only things to drink are ginger beer and water.

In Marcelus the ascendancy of woman is even greater, and it is seriously proposed to change the name of the town to Marcelus, in recognition of the fact. Out of a population of 1,200 two-thirds of the church members are women. Five of the six schoolteachers are women. Two members of the Public School Board are women. The undertaker of the town is a woman, and a handsome blonde at that, the local chronicler adds with pardonable pride. The favorite barber of the town is a woman, and a woman is the proprietor of the leading hotel. But it is needless to go on with the record. About forty women altogether are represented in professional or business life, and they are doing their work so well that everybody is satisfied. They have organized a Twentieth Century Club, in which they discuss still further advances for the sex, and the probabilities are that they will soon hold all the municipal offices in the town, with the possible exception of dogcatcher, which will be given to some worthy man. In the mean-while, however, they are the power behind the throne, and very little is done in the town of which they do not approve.

As we have frequently pointed out, the "new woman" of the newspaper funny men is a myth. If such a vulgar, unsexed creature exists at all, it is only as a rare anomaly. The women in these Western towns are not "new women." They have parted with none of the virtues and graces for which the world honors womanhood. All that they have done is to prove that they have much the same capacity for the active business of life that men have. As municipal rulers they may or may not prove to be as successful as men. But at least their influence will be on the side of purity, honesty and morality. And that of itself is no small thing.

ITALY AND ABYSSINIA.

The war in Abyssinia has been brought to an end without another blow. The two combatants have made concessions to each other, by mutual agreement, without having to resort to arbitration. On the one side the Abyssinians have released their Italian prisoners. Doubtless they were glad to do so. They did not want them. It was expensive to keep them, and it would have been barbarous to kill them. Just to open the doors and let them go was a happy deliverance. And that is all the Abyssinians have done. On the other side the Italians have destroyed their fortifications in Tigré and evacuated that province, and have retired to within the borders of Erythraea. They have abandoned, that is, all they had been fighting for, all for which they had spent thousands of lives and millions of money; and they have practically confessed themselves beaten and utterly unable to carry out the schemes of conquest to which a short time ago they were fully com-

mitted. Seldom has so important an enterprise had so mean an ending.

Italy stands before the world to-day humiliated and disgraced. She has been beaten in a venture of her own seeking by a petty nation of unwashed savages, who are conspicuous chiefly because they cherish as a precious physical infirmity which the rest of the world regards as a misfortune and a cause of shame. Her dream of colonial greatness is dissolved. Perhaps she may still hold Erythraea. She can scarcely hope to do anything with Somaliland, and there is no reason to suppose her desire for Tripoli will ever be gratified. So her green dreams from the map of Africa, excepting a little patch on the Red Sea coast, which may be suffered to remain for a time as a buffer between the territories of France and Great Britain. What the effect will be upon her European standing remains to be seen. She is still in the Triple Alliance, of course. But Germany, who has always used her solely for German ends, with cynical selfishness, is not likely to regard as essential to the peace of Europe the continued friendship of a Power that could not hold her own against the King of Shoa. The voice of the Quirinal is likely to play a minor part henceforth in the high councils of Europe.

In the mean time, if Great Britain is also withdrawing from the Upper Nile, the world has yet to be informed of the fact. No doubt Great Britain was willing and glad so to time her movement toward Khartoum as to seem to co-operate with Italy, and thus to give the latter some little moral aid. But they were sadly ill-advised who thought that was the chief British end and aim. John Bull does not do things in that way. He fights, first of all, for his own hand. It did not require extraordinary presence of mind at Downing Street to see that Italy would be driven out of Abyssinia, and to see that that Power which was nearest at hand at the time would have the best chance of stepping in her place. A particularly opportune time this is for a British force to be moving on Dongola, with Berber just around the big bend of the river, and Khartoum and Kassala and Senaar within striking distance. British troops have marched to Magdala before this, and they may do so again. The Anglo-Italian treaty of five years ago would scarcely stand in their way.

It may, at any rate, be reckoned as sure that Abyssinia's doom is sealed. She has repulsed Italy, but she cannot repulse all who crowd to be Italy's successors. If Great Britain does not take advantage of the present opportunity, Russia will probably not hesitate to do so. Already she has a practical alliance with Abyssinia, and has proposed a protectorate. We may expect that proposal to be presently renewed, with added ardor. Nor would France be at all backward in enlarging the borders of the Obok "hinterland," until they reached the Nile. Unjust and wicked it may be; but the weaker Powers must give way to the stronger. Siam learned that lesson not long ago, and Abyssinia will soon learn it. Perhaps it will afford her some consolation to remember that before she herself fell she inflicted upon Italy the most deadly blow that nation had received in a quarter-century of national life.

We regret to notice a disposition on the part of the Mugwumps to forget the evils of Republican boss rule in their joy at finding the bosses allied with them in opposition to the Republican masses.

If the Governor desires to save Superintendent Aldridge that \$30,000 which he lost through his attempt to disobey the Constitution in filling the offices in the Department of Public Works he might pay the illegally employed men himself, for he is better off than Mr. Aldridge. That will cost him money, but it will be more satisfactory in the end than by signing Aldridge's grab bills to become party to attempts to draw money improperly from the State treasury, which the courts will probably declare unconstitutional.

Mr. Platt has been to urge Mr. Quay to stand with him in the last ditch, and now Mr. Quay announces that he is going to visit Canton. This looks uncommonly like another betrayal.

The New-York Free Public Library now has a site. The next thing is to erect a building worthy of the magnificent plot set apart for it, and worthy of the metropolitan city. This is a work which may well excite the ambition of the best architects in the world. It offers the finest opportunity for a splendid public building that this city has had for a generation and it may be used to give it lasting distinction.

When political bosses attempt to domineer over the rights of the people, it is time for them to be dropped.

Our New-Jersey neighbors ought to lose no time in putting up a substantial guard rail or a strong fence along the dangerous precipices of the Passaic. Unless those dangerous places are guarded, many lives may be lost before the bicycling season is over.

A careful count shows that 32,000 bicycles went down the Coney Island Cycle Path last Sunday. It is not surprising that there were several accidents. The great number of riders who use this popular bicycle course shows the pressing need that exists not only for a return path, which is now being rapidly built, but for other good roads which will divert travel from the Ocean Parkway and relieve the congestion there. At present riders flock there because there is a minimum amount of good riding elsewhere.

PERSONAL.

The late Baron de Hirsch once deeply offended M. Lavisse, the famous professor of history, who had consented to give the Baron's son lessons in his specialty. After dinner on the day of the first lesson or so, the Baron picked up a cigar from his table, and, as he was about to light it, he said, "You don't have that kind at home, as they cost me 25 sous each." The professor gave up his duties a few days later.

P. W. Hatch, the Hawaiian Minister to the United States, is visiting his former home in Portsmouth, N. H. The citizens had planned a public reception for him, but at his request the idea was abandoned.

The Czar and Czarina, in honor of their coronation, will receive a great number of gold and silver souvenir spoons and loons, or pictures of saints framed in jewels. Two different firms have each finished 150 spoons of elaborate workmanship for the imperial pair—presents in most cases from different cities in the Empire.

Leroy M. Vernon, dean of the College of Fine Arts of the University of Syracuse, has been invited by the Board of Education of New-York to deliver the address of commencement exercises of the High School on June 19.

A Glasgow paper says that when Mme. Bernhardt last visited Glasgow, she bought a fine collar from a local celebrity who kept an underground shop for the disposal of reptiles, parrots and dogs. Madame was intensely interested in both the establishment and the proprietor. The other day she was the word of this reaching Madame a kind letter of condolence was dispatched to the widow. The letter is in the handwriting of a secretary, and tells the Glasgow dog is Mme. Bernhardt's favorite pet, goes about with her all day, and that she is deeply grieved to hear of the death of the naturalist who was good enough to sell it to her. In memory of the transaction she proposes to change the collar's name and call it after her late friend.

The members of the Maryland Club, of Baltimore, who served in the Confederate Army, gave a dinner to General Fitzhugh Lee on Monday evening.

Professor Leopold Julius Böck, the Hungarian patriot who died in Philadelphia last week, was in his young manhood a friend and associate of Kossuth. He came to this city soon after the arrival of Kossuth, and founded a